Blue mold poses threat to tobacco growers

Blue Mold has been identified in Appomattox County. The grower first observed it on May 12.

Virginia is now under a Blue Mold watch because of the widespread field Blue-mold in North and South Carolina. It is important to recognize that damage is not severe at this stage.

Growers under the Blue Mold watch should apply a fungicide once or twice weekly to tobacco that has been transplanted depending on weather conditions. If tobacco has not been transplanted, you may want to consider putting Ridomil in the field.

As soon as transplanting is complete--destroy the plant bed.

* * *

This is the year for Appomattox County Fire Cured Tobacco producers to elect a Director to the Marketing Association. This is a three-year term and is currently held by Sam Davidson, Route 4.

The meeting to elect a Director will be at the County Extension Office, Tuesday, July 1, 1980, 7:30 P.M.

* * *

An attractive program has been developed featuring Stan Duffer, Marketing Agent with Virginia Department of Agriculture and Tom Hall, General Manager of the Dark Fired Marketing Association.

We encourage your participation in this program.

* * *

Cattlemen who sell through one of the organized feeder sales are member of the Virginia Beef Cattle Association.

The VBCA has several promotional trips planned for the summer. There are some open seats if some of

you can get off for 3 to 5 days to go out-of-state and promote your product. You'll enjoy it and find it's a good experience. Give me a call if you are interested.

If your steer calves were born before March 1 it's time to round them up and get another Ralgro implant inserted.

Several weeks ago I had the opportunity of hearing Dr. Gene Nelson from Oregon State University. He's one of the fine young agricultural economists on the scene today.

He says that farmers tend to ignore the risks relating to shortage of imputs, low yield and low prices. He terms it a natural psychological response.

Four ways of dealing with risks are:

1. Analyze alternative actions, possible events and payoffs.
2. Estimate probabilities for the events.
3. Consider the attitude and ability to take risk.
4. Seek methods for controlling risks.

These approaches recognize the personal element in management.

* * *

It's time to be on the outlook for sod webworms. They feed on blades of grass. In lawns they can cause extensive damage. If you observe tan colored moths flying up in front of the lawn mower or in front of yourself as you walk across the lawn--you probably need to spray.

* * *

Ticks are as sure as spring. Tick collars for dogs and cats do a great job, but for man we need somthing else.

Ticks are usually found in grassy and wooded areas. Children should be checked daily. The American Dog Tick is very common and can spread Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

PRECIPITATION

Last Week	.10
This Month	.10
This Year	17.85

Senior 4-H'ers to attend 4-H congress

By FRANK SWEET
Extension Agent

Twenty-two 4-H'ers took part in last week's 4-H Dog Show, Mr. Pat Lair representing Lawson Ford presented trophies to the following 4-H'ers: Luann Crain, Tom Cobb, Kim Romanac, Jeannice Bartelt, Michelle Romanac, Larry Harris, Amy Kerr, and Cindy Whitehead. Mrs. Jane Dolman and Mr. Clyde Wilkinson of the James River Kennel Club served as judges for this year's show.

* * *

Nearly twenty Appomattox Senior 4-H'ers are planning to attend State 4-H Congress on the VPI & SU Campus during the week of June 23-27.

* * *

The Evergreen 4-H Club and the Lucky Clover 4-H Club will travel to Kings Dominion this Saturday, June 7, for a group trip. Club members and guests will be participating.

* * *

Four Senior 4-H'ers will be recognized as State 4-H Achievement Winners at 4-H Congress later in June. These winners are Lisa Moore in Achievement, David Caldwell in Public Speaking, Allen Smith in Gardening and Susan Farris in General Achievement. Lisa, David and Susan will be traveling to National 4-H Congress in Chicago in November.

* * *

The Piedmont Junior Livestock Show will take place June 13 and 14 at the Farmville Five County Fairgrounds. The show will begin on Saturday morning

Happiness is 4-H

June 14 at 8 a.m. 4-H and FFA members will be showing market hogs, beef steers, beef heifers and market lambs during the day on Saturday.

What's happening in Appomattox

THURSDAY, JUNE 5
Tops Club meets Central Fidelity Bank, 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8
WOW Picnic, Camp #71 and Grove 6073 at WOW Building, 1 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 9
Appomattox Historical Society Meets, Va. Coop Ext. Office, 7:30 p.m.

Bloodmobile slated here

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will make its next visit here Monday, June 16.

The bloodmobile will set up at Liberty Baptist Church from 12 noon until 6 p.m. The quota for this visit is set at 100 units of blood.

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Proper planning prevents backyard accidents

By SHIRLEY W. WALTON
Extension Agent

Summer Safety in the Back Yard

What is safety? Adults might know, but children don't. The National Safety Council says over 17 million children are injured in accidents each year. The leading causes of children under age five are home related and most of these accidents occur during the months of July and August.

The weather is getting warmer and the days longer. Youngsters will be spending more of their time playing out of doors as soon as school is out. They may not know about the dangers in the outside world, so they must depend on others to provide them an environment that is as accident free as possible. They must also look to others to learn how to avoid accidents.

Many accidents can be avoided by careful planning and proper education. Parents need to encourage children to use caution. The back yard is a good place to begin. How can you make your back yard safer? Take a look outside and try to determine steps that you can take that will not cost money to make your yard a safer place for children to play.

A large number of accidents occur on play equipment. Children should be supervised while they are using such equipment, and the equipment should be cared for properly. Nuts, bolts and screws should be checked and tightened regularly. Rusted connectors such as nuts, bolts and chains should be replaced. Look at how you can replace maybe a present hard swing seat made out of wood or metal with a woven sling type seat.

It is a good idea to sand and repaint any tubing that has rusted or has sharp edges.

Another place you should look carefully in your back yard is at the children's sandbox. Sandbox play has not been listed as a major cause of injury for children, but it is still important to follow safety guidelines. By following some safety tips accidents will be avoided as well as you will contribute to a more healthful and happy playing conditions for your children.

Some tips for sandboxes are: Permit only the small children to use the sandbox. Check sand at regular intervals to make sure that it is free of broken glass and other debris. Inspect the frame of the box frequently to see if it has no worn or split portions. Locate sandboxes in shady areas. Don't permit bottles or sharp utensils in the sandbox. Don't give children their lunches in or near the sandbox. Keep sand clean. Rake it thoroughly every day. Turn over and expose to sun and air. Cover boxes at night so unnecessary moisture will not accumulate in the sand and this will help keep out cats and dogs also.

Be extra cautious about using a tractor tire for a sandbox. Snakes can crawl into the inner rim of the tire and be there to bite an unsuspecting child. If you use a tire to frame a sandpile, be sure that you cut a portion of the rim out so that insects, spiders and snakes cannot get into them and be harmful to the little children playing in them.

Be cautious this summer. Have a safe summer in your own back yard. Be sure that you instruct children about the dangers that can be found in their back yard, and help them to become safety conscious.

Homemakers, if you have a homemaking question or problem, you may call us at 352-8244 or write us at P. O. Box 488, Appomattox, VA. 24522.

Have a good week!

RECEIPE OF THE WEEK
Orange-Lemonade

1 -6-oz. can of frozen orange juice concentrate
5 tablespoons bottle lemon juice or the juice of 5 lemons
3 cups sugar (may be reduced if desired)

Pour the above ingredients in a gallon jar. Add 2 cups boiling water. Stir until sugar dissolves thoroughly. Fill remainder of jar with cold water.

This is a very refreshing and nutritious drink for hot summer months. It is a nice replacement for soft drinks and is less expensive.

Thanks to Emilia Racer for sharing this delicious, thirst quinching recipe with us.

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June 30th deadline for acreage reports

By TOM CONRAD

Report Tobacco and Grain Acreage by June 30. - Fire, flue and sun-cured tobacco producers and corn, grain sorghum and soybean producers should remember that June 30 is the deadline for reporting planted acreages of these crops.

Failure to report tobacco acreage will result in no price support and failure to report corn, grain sorghum and soybean acreage will mean that a grain producer will not be eligible for disaster payments, deficiency payments or commodity loans.

All tobacco farms whether there is planted acreage or not need to report. If there is zero planted acreage, then the farmer needs to report zero. If no report is made, the farm's allotment will be reduced to zero next year.

Both the tobacco and the grain program are entirely separate from each other and eligibility in one is not affected by eligibility in the other. The important thing to remember is that planted acreages in both programs need to be reported by June 30.

Agricultural Conservation Program [ACP] - Farmers that are signed up in the ACP are urged to report performance when the practice is completed. Check the approval mailed to you for the expiration date. If you are not able to complete the practice by the expiration date, you can apply for an extension by calling or coming to the ASCS office. When you finish the practice and before reporting performance, check the bills for the materials received to make sure the amount of materials recommended on the approval have been used. You need to have received the recommended amount in order for ASCS to pay cost-share.

Farm Facility Loan Program - Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland announced recently that the amount a farmer may borrow under the farm storage facility loan program has been increased from $50,000 to $100,000. The loan increase is being authorized to reflect higher costs of construction and materials.

Under this program, loans are offered by ASCS at 13% interest to help farmers buy, build or remodel on-farm storage facilities and to obtain needed drying and handling equipment.

The maximum loan is 85 percent of the cost of the structures and equipment. Under the new maximum, the aggregate outstanding loan balance maximum is also increased to $100,000. A minimum down payment of 15 percent of the cost must be paid in cash by the farmer before the loan is disbursed.

Loan repayment terms allow for a maximum of seven equal annual installments over a period of eight years. Prepayment may be made at any given time without penalty. Farmers must apply for loans at the county office within 30 days of the time the items to be financed are delivered to the farm.

The method of determining storage needs is based on two years production of grain and/or beans on all farms that the farmer operates.

Farmers have built approximately 4.2 billion bushels of storage under the farm storage facility loan program since the program began in 1949. About 43 percent of this construction has occurred since April 1977 when Bergland authorized major program changes.

ASCS Today

THIRTY YEARS - Posing for a picture to represent the occasion of being honored for 30 years of service to Virginia Extension are; front row, from left, Tommie Lou Hunter, Northern District Extension leader in program support services at Luray; Mary Hillie McCoy, retired East Central District agent at Appomattox; Kathleen W. Wampler, Tech Extension specialist in family life education; back from left, Rsland C. Watts, Fluvanna County agent, and William N. Patterson, Tech Extension specialist in dairy records. They were presented the U.S. Department of Agriculture service certificates at the annual Extension conference at Virginia Tech.

Blanks receives swine award

G. Duane Blanks has been named area winner of the FFA award for swine production. Blanks, 17, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Gerald Blanks, RFD 1, Spout Spring.

The proficiency award in swine production is a special project of the National FFA Foundation sponsored by Pfizer Inc.

An Appomattox County High School junior, Duane has steadily increased his swine enterprises while enrolled in agricultural education. He now cares for nearly 16 head of Duroc Jersey swine.

His accomplishments will be judged along with those of five other area winners for the state award. The state award will be a program feature of the 1980 State FFA Convention at Blacksburg, June 17-20.

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